

1 [Mary Ellen Pleasant Day.]  
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3 **Resolution declaring February 10, 2005, "Mary Ellen Pleasant Day" in San Francisco.**  
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5 WHEREAS, Mary Ellen Pleasant was one of San Francisco's and California's first  
6 freedom fighters; and

7 WHEREAS, Mary Ellen Pleasant was born a slave near Augusta, Georgia between  
8 1814 and 1817, and, according to ships records and confirming testimony, she arrived in San  
9 Francisco in 1852 to escape persecution under the Fugitive Slave Law of 1850, which had  
10 made her life as a slave rescuer in the East increasingly dangerous; and,

11 WHEREAS, Throughout the 1850s, Mary Ellen Pleasant funded and actively  
12 participated in the Underground Railroad with leader John Brown and others; and,

13 WHEREAS, Mary Ellen Pleasant fought tirelessly for the rights of citizenship for all  
14 African Americans, including the right to testify in court and the right to be educated; and,

15 WHEREAS, Mary Ellen Pleasant fought for the rights of women in San Francisco  
16 during the gold-rush era and beyond; and,

17 WHEREAS, Mary Ellen Pleasant was an important entrepreneur and institution builder  
18 in San Francisco for nearly fifty years and helped make the city what it is today; now,  
19 therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors hereby declares February 10, 2005, "Mary  
21 Ellen Pleasant Day" in San Francisco.  
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23  
24  
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City and County of San Francisco

City Hall  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Tails  
Resolution

File Number: 050159

Date Passed:

Resolution declaring February 10, 2005, "Mary Ellen Pleasant Day" in San Francisco.

February 1, 2005 Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED

Ayes: 10 - Alioto-Pier, Ammiano, Daly, Elsbernd, Ma, Maxwell, McGoldrick,  
Mirkarimi, Peskin, Sandoval  
Excused: 1 - Dufty

File No. 050159

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution  
was ADOPTED on February 1, 2005 by the  
Board of Supervisors of the City and County  
of San Francisco.

Gloria L. Young  
Clerk of the Board

FEB 11 2005

Date Approved

Mayor Gavin Newsom